Approved Minutes Clean Energy Development Board Quarterly Meeting – July 17, 2014

In Attendance:

Board Members:	Attending	Absent
Sam Swanson	X	
Jo Bradley		X
Jennifer Hollar	X	
Linda McGinnis		X
Johanna Miller	X	
Gaye Symington	X	
Mark Whitworth	X	

State Employees:

Andrew Perchlik, Manager - Clean Energy Development Fund, Public Service Department (PSD).

Members of the Public:

None present.

<u>Materials Presented</u>: Draft agenda, draft minutes from the Board's 6/19/14 meeting, program update for FY '14, monthly financial report for June 2014; FY '15 Annual Plan; public comments received on the FY '15 Annual Plan.

Minutes

Meeting brought to order at 10:02 with Andrew Perchlik and Gaye Symington presiding.

- I. **Agenda**: The draft agenda was discussed and was approved after moving the public comment period to the end of the agenda and adding discussions of the new open meeting law and a communications plan for the Annual Plan and Budget.
- II. **Minutes**: Hollar moved to approve the minutes as submitted from the following meetings: 6/19/14, 5/8/14, and 4/9/14. Whitworth seconded the motion. **Vote:** The motion was approved with four voting in favor of the motion and Miller abstaining.
 - It was pointed out that the minutes form the public hearing held in Brattleboro on 5/14/14 have not been submitted to the Board for approval yet. Perchlik said he would send out draft minutes from that meeting.
- III. **Communication of the FY '15 Plan**: There was a brief discussion about whether the Board and/or the PSD should send out a press release once the Plan has been approved and details of the

press. It was agreed that this will be discussed further after Perchlik has had a chance to discuss the matter with the PSD.

- IV. **Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Plan and Budget**: There was discussion and suggestions on different aspects and sections of the Plan and Budget as proposed by the PSD. It was agreed upon that instead of making motions on each suggested change the Board would try and consider them all as a package of changes at the end of the discussion. There was specific discussion regarding several items:
 - **a.** The Small Scale Renewable Energy Incentive Program (SSREIP) and the Plan's ending of the PV incentives on Dec. 31, 2014. While there was concern in ending the incentive there was agreement that the PV incentive for residential customers would end on Dec. 31, 2014 as proposed by the PSD.
 - **b.** It was suggested that the CEDF should keep the PV incentive for the Special Customers in the SSREIP until at least June 30, 2015 instead of ending it in December as proposed by the PSD. After discussion on the end of the other PV incentives it was agreed that the Special Customer PV incentive should remain in effect until June 30, 2015, but that the incentive level could be reduced to \$1/watt on October 1st, 2014 as proposed.
 - with the ending of the PV incentive program there will be less quality control over installations as REV's Partnership program is used as a pre-requisite to access the SSREIP. This issue and possible solutions were discussed.
 - **d.** The existing installer caps in the SSREIP were discussed. Perchlik explained the current rule is that if the available funds in the SSREIP dip below \$100,000 the installer caps would be removed. Perchlik agreed to come up with a proposal for how to address this issue with the incentive program ending on a date certain and not related to the amount of funding.
 - **e.** The Windham County section of the report was discussed and how it did, or didn't, address the comments received from Windham County residents and organizations.
 - f. The Plan's focus on Modern Wood Heating (MWH) and what the definition of MWH is was discussed in-depth. In particular there was agreement that the definition of MWH should call for the use of local wood fuel resources. The Board discussed that "local" could be defined as wood harvested within a fifty mile radius.
 - i. There was also agreement that there should be energy efficiency requirements for the use of CEDF funds that support the installation of modern wood heat.

After further discussion it was agreed that Plan and Budget (except finding the estimated \$100,000 needed to keep the Special Customer PV incentive going for another six months) was acceptable but the Board wanted to see a final version with the changes agreed upon incorporated and a final budget before a vote. Therefore, the Board agreed to set a Special Meeting for Friday July 25, 2014 at 9:00AM to be held at the PSD. There was also an interested in seeing a draft press release at this next meeting. Perchlik agreed to work with Swanson and Symington on a draft press release.

With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 12:03